A REPORT
OF THE TRVTH OF
the fight about the Iles of
Açores, this laſt
Sommer.
BETVVIXT THE
Reuenge, one of her Maieſties
Shippes,
And an Armada of the King
of Spaine.

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A report of the truth of the fight about *the Isles of Açores, this last summer, betwixt the Reuenge, one of her Maiesties Shippes, and an Armada of the king of Spaine.*

BEcause the rumours are diuersly spred, as well in Englande as in the lowe countries and els where, of this late encounter betweene her maiesties ships and the Armada of *Spain*; and that the Spaniardes according to their vsuall maner, fill the world with their vaine glorious vaunts, making great apparance of victories: when on the contrary, themselues are most commonly & shamefully beaten and dishonoured; therby hoping to possesse the ignorant multitude by anticipating and forerunning false reports: It is agreeable with all good reason, for manifestation of the truth to ouercome falshood and vntruth; that the beginning, continuance and successe of this late honourable encounter of Syr *Richard Grinuile*, and other her maiesties Captaines, with the Armada of *Spaine*; should be

truly ſet downe & publiſhed without parcialitie or falſe imaginations. And it is no maruell that the Spaniard ſhould ſeeke by falſe & ſlandrous Pamphlets, aduiſoes and Letters, to couer their owne loſſe, and to derogate from others their due honours, eſpecially in this fight beeing performed farre of: ſeeing they were not aſhamed in the yeare 1588. when they purpoſed the inuaſion of this land, to publiſh in ſundrie languages in print, great victories in wordes, which they pleaded to haue obteined againſt this Realme; and ſpredde the ſame in a moſt falſe ſort ouer all partes of *France*, *Italie*, and elſe where. When ſhortly after it was happily manifeſted in verie deed to all Nations, how their Nauy which they termed inuincible, conſiſting of 240. ſaile of ſhips, not onely of their own kingdom, but ſtrengthened with the greateſt Argoſies, *Portugall* Caractes, Florentines and huge Hulkes of other countries: were by thirtie of her Maieſties owne ſhippes of warre, and a few of our owne Marchants, by the wiſe, valiant, and moſt aduantagious conduction of the L. *Charles Howard*, high Admirall of England, beaten and ſhuffeled togither; euen from the Lizard in *Cornwall*: firſt to *Portland*, where they ſhamefully left *Don Pedro de Valdes*, with his mightie ſhippe: from *Portland* to *Cales*, where they loſt *Hugo de Moncado*, with the Gallias of which he was Captain, and from *Cales*, driuen with ſquibs from their anchors,

anchors: were chaſed out of the ſight of England, round about *Scotland* and *Ireland*. Where for the ſympathie of their barbarous religion, hoping to finde ſuccour and aſſiſtance: a great part of them were cruſht againſt the rocks, and thoſe other that landed, being verie manie in number, were notwithſtanding broken, ſlaine, and taken, and ſo ſent from village to village coupled in halters to be ſhipped into Englād. Where her Maieſtie of her Princely & inuincible diſpoſition, diſdaining to put them to death, and ſcorning either to retaine or entertaine them: were all ſent backe againe to their countries, to witneſſe and recount the worthy achieuements of their inuincible and dreadfull Nauy. Of which the number of ſouldiers, the fearefull burthen of their ſhippes, the commanders names of euerie ſquadron, with all other their magaſines of prouiſions, were put in print, as an Army & Nauy vnreſiſtible, and diſdaining preuention. With all which ſo great and terrible an oſtentation, they did not in all their ſailing rounde about England, ſo much as ſinke or take one ſhip, Barke, Pinnes, or Cockbote of ours: or euer burnt ſo much as one ſheepcote of this land. When as on the contrarie, Syr *Francis Drake*, with only 800. ſouldiers not long before, landed in their Indies, and forced *Santiago*, *Santo Domingo*, *Cartagena*, and the Fortes of *Florida*.

And after that, Syr *Iohn Norris* marched from

from *Peniche* in *Portugall*, with a handfull of ſouldiers, to the gates of *Lisbone*, being aboue 40. Engliſh miles. Where the Earle of *Eſſex* himſelfe and other valiant Gentlemen, braued the Cittie of *Lisbone*, encamped at the verie gates; from whence after many daies abode, finding neither promiſed partie, nor prouiſiõ to batter; made retrait by lãd, in deſpight of all their Garriſons, both of Horſe and foote. In this ſort I haue a little digreſſed from my firſt purpoſe, only by the neceſſarie compariſon of theirs and our actions: the one couetous of honor without vaunt or oſtentation; the other ſo greedy to purchaſe the opiniõ of their own affaires, & by falſe rumors to reſiſt the blaſts of their owne diſhonors, as they wil not only not bluſh to ſpread all manner of vntruthes: but euen for the leaſt aduantage, be it but for the taking of one poore aduenturer of the Engliſh, will celebrate the victorie with bonefiers in euerie town, alwaies ſpending more in faggots, then the purchaſe was worth they obtained. When as we neuer yet thought it worth the conſumption of two billets, when we haue taken eight or ten of their Indian ſhippes at one time, & twentie of the Braſill fleet. Such is the difference betweene true valure, and oſtentation: and betweene honourable actions, and friuolous vaineglorious uaunts. But now to returne to my firſt purpoſe.

The L. *Thomas Howard*, with ſixe of her Maieſties

Maieſties ſhips, ſixe victualers of London, the barke Ralegh, and two or three Pinnaſes riding at anchor nere vnto Flores, one of the Weſterlie Ilands of the Azores, the laſt of Auguſt in the after noone, had intelligence by one Captaine *Midleton*, of the approch of the Spaniſh Armada. Which *Midleton* being in a verie good Sailer, had kept them eompanie three daies before, of good purpoſe, both to diſcouer their forces the more, as alſo to giue aduice to my L. *Thomas* of their approch. He had no ſooner deliuered the newes but the Fleet was in ſight: manie of our ſhippes companies were on ſhore in the Iland; ſome prouiding balaſt for their ſhips; others filling of water and refreſhing themſelues from the land with ſuch thinges as they coulde either for money, or by force recouer. By reaſon whereof our ſhips being all peſtered and romaging euerie thing out of order, verie light for want of balaſt. And that which was moſt to our diſaduantage, the one halfe part of the men of euerie ſhippe ſicke, and vtterly vnſeruiceable. For in the *Reuenge* there were nintie diſeaſed: in the *Bonauenture*, not ſo many in health as could handle her maine ſaile. For had not twentie men beene taken out of a Barke of Sir *George Caryes*, his being commanded to be ſunke, and thoſe appointed to her, ſhe had hardly euer recouered England. The reſt for the moſt part, were in little better ſtate.

The names of her Maieſties ſhippes were theſe as followeth: the *Defiaunce*, which was Admirall, the *Reuenge* Viceadmirall, the *Bonauenture* commanded by Captaine *Croſſe*, the *Lion* by *George Fenner*, the *Foreſight* by M. *Thomas Vauiſour*, and the *Crane* by *Duffeild*. The *Foreſight* & the *Crane* being but ſmal ſhips; onely the other were of the middle ſize; the reſt, beſids the Barke *Ralegh*, commanded by Captaine *Thin*, were victualers, & of ſmall force or none. The Spaniſh fleete hauing ſhrouded their approch by reaſon of the Iland; were now ſo ſoone at hãd, as our ſhips had ſcarce time to waye their anchors, but ſome of them were driuen to let ſlippe their Cables and ſet ſayle. Sir *Richard Grinuile* was the laſt waied, to recouer the men that were vpon the Iland, which otherwiſe had beene loſt. The L. *Thomas* with the reſt verie hardly recouered the winde, which Sir *Richard Grinuile* not being able to do, was perſwaded by the maiſter and others to cut his maine ſaile, and caſt about, and to truſt to the ſailing of the ſhippe: for the ſquadron of *Siuil* were on his wether bow. But Sir *Richard* vtterly refuſed to turne from the enimie, alledging that he would rather choſe to dye, then to diſhonour him ſelfe, his countrie, and her Maiſties ſhippe, perſwading his companie that he would paſſe through the two Squadrons, in deſpight of them: and enforce thoſe of *Siuil* to giue him way. Which he performed vpon

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diuerſe of the formoſt, who as the Marriners terme it, ſprang their luffe, and fell vnder the lee of the *Reuenge*. But the other courſe had beene the better, and might right well haue beene anſwered in ſo great an impoſsibilitie of preuailing. Notwithſtanding out of the greatneſſe of his minde, he could not bee perſwaded. In the meane while as hee attended thoſe which were neareſt him, the great *San Philip* being in the winde of him &, comming towards him, becalmed his ſailes in ſuch ſort, as the ſhippe could neither make way nor feele the helme: ſo huge and high carged was the Spaniſh ſhip, being of a thouſand & fiue hundreth tuns. Who afterlaid the *Reuenge* aboord. When he was thus bereft of his ſailes, the ſhips that wer vnder his lee luffing vp, alſo laid him aborde: of which the next was the Admirall of the Biſcaines, a verie mightie and puyſant ſhippe commanded by *Brittan Dona*. The ſaid *Philip* carried three tire of ordinance on a ſide, and eleuen peeces in euerie tire. She ſhot eight forth right out of her chaſe, beſides thoſe of her Sterne portes.

After the *Reuenge* was intangled with this *Philip*, foure other boorded her; two on her larboord, and two on her ſtarboord. The fight thus beginning at three of the clocke in the after noone, continued verie terrible all that euening. But the great *San Philip* hauing receyued the lower tire of the *Reuenge*,

charged with croſſebarſhot, ſhifted hir ſelfe with all diligence from her ſides, vtterly miſliking hir firſt entertainment. Some ſay that the ſhippe foundred, but wee cannot report it for truth, vnleſſe wee were aſſured. The Spaniſh ſhips were filled with companies of ſouldiers, in ſome two hundred beſides the Marriners; in ſome fiue, in others eight hundreth. In ours there were none at all, beſide the Marriners, but the ſeruants of the commanders and ſome few voluntarie Gentlemen only. After many enterchanged voleies of great ordinance and ſmall ſhot, the Spaniards deliberated to enter the *Reuenge*, and made diuers attempts, hoping to force her by the multitudes of their armed ſouldiers and Musketiers, but were ſtill repulſed againe and againe, and at all times beaten backe, into their own ſhippes, or into the ſeas. In the beginning of the fight, the *George Noble* of *London*, hauing receiued ſome ſhot thorow her by the Armados, fell vnder the Lee of the *Reuenge*, and asked Syr *Richard* what he would command him, being but one of the victulers and of ſmall force: Syr *Richard* bidde him ſaue ſaue himſelfe, & leaue him to his fortune. After the fight had thus without intermiſſion, cõtinued while the day laſted & ſome houres of the night, many of our men were ſlaine and hurt, and one of the great Gallions of the Armada, and the Admirall of the Hulkes both ſunke, and in many other of the Spaniſh ſhips

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great ſlaughter was made. Some write that ſir *Richard* was verie dangerouſly hurt almoſt in the beginning of the fight, and laie ſpeechleſſe for a time ere he recouered. But two of the *Reuenges* owne companie, brought home in a ſhip of Lime from the Ilandes, examined by ſome of the Lordes, and others: affirmed that he was neuer ſo wounded as that hee forſooke the vpper decke, til an houre before midnight; and thē being ſhot into the bodie with a Muſket as hee was a dreſſing, was againe ſhot into the head, & withall his Chirurgion wounded to death. This agreeth alſo with an examination taken by Syr *Frances Godolphin*, of 4. other Marriners of the ſame ſhippe being returned, which examination, the ſaid Syr *Frances* ſent vnto maiſter *William Killigrue*, of her Maieſties priuie Chamber.

But to return to the fight, the Spaniſh ſhips which attempted to board the *Reuenge*, as they were wounded & beaten of, ſo alwaies others came in their places, ſhe hauing neuer leſſe thē two mightie Gallions by her ſides, and aboard her. So that ere the morning, from three of the clocke the day before, there had fifteene ſeuerall Armados aſſailed her; and all ſo ill approued their entertainment, as they were by the breake of day, far more willing to harken to a compoſition, then haſtily to make any more aſſaults or entries. But as the day encreaſed, ſo our men decreaſed: and as the light grew more

and more, by ſo much more grew our diſcomforts. For none appeared in ſight but enemies, ſauing one ſmall ſhip called the *Pilgrim*, commanded by *Iacob Whiddon*, who houered all night to ſee the ſucceſſe: but in the mornyng bearing with the *Reuenge*, was hunted like a hare amongſt many rauenous houndes, but eſcaped.

All the powder of the *Reuenge* to the laſt barrell was now ſpent, all her pikes broken, fortie of her beſt men ſlaine, and the moſt part of the reſt hurt. In the beginning of the fight ſhe had but one hundreth free from ſicknes, and foureſcore and ten ſicke, laid in hold vpon the Ballaſt. A ſmall troupe to man ſuch a ſhip, and a weake Garriſon to reſiſt ſo mighty an Army. By thoſe hundred all was ſuſtained, the voleis, bourdings, and entrings of fifteene ſhippes of warre, beſides thoſe which beat her at large. On the contrarie, the Spaniſh were alwaies ſupplied with ſouldiers brought from euerie ſquadron: all maner of Armes and pouder at will. Vnto ours there remained no comfort at all, no hope, no ſupply either of ſhips, men, or weapons; the maſtes all beaten ouer board, all her tackle cut a ſunder, her vpper worke altogither raſed, and in effect euened ſhee was with the water, but the verie foundation or bottom of a ſhip, nothing being left ouer head either for flight or defence. Syr *Richard* finding himſelfe in this diſtreſſe, & vnable anie longer

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to make reſiſtance, hauing endured in this fifteene houres fight, the aſſault of fifteene ſeuerall Armadoes, all by tornnes aboorde him, and by eſtimation eight hundred ſhot of great artillerie, beſides manie aſſaults and entries. And that himſelfe and the ſhippe muſt needes be poſſeſſed by the enimie, who were now all caſt in a ring round about him; The *Reuenge* not able to moue one way or other, but as ſhe was moued with the waues and billow of the ſea: commanded the maiſter Gunner, whom he knew to be a moſt reſolute man, to ſplit and ſinke the ſhippe; that thereby nothing might remaine of glorie or victorie to the Spaniards: ſeeing in ſo manie houres fight, and with ſo great a Nauie they were not able to take her, hauing had fifteene houres time, fifteene thouſand men, and fiftie & three ſaile of men of warre to performe it withall. And perſwaded the companie, or as manie as he could induce, to yeelde them ſelues vnto God, and to the mercie of none els; but as they had like valiant reſolute men, repulſed ſo manie enimies, they ſhould not now ſhorten the honour of their nation, by prolonging their owne liues for a few houres, or a few daies. The maiſter Gunner readilie condeſcended and diuers others; but the Captaine and the Maiſter were of an other opinion, and beſought Sir *Richard* to haue care of them: alleaging that the Spaniard would be as readie

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to entertaine a compoſition, as they were willing to offer the ſame: aud that there being diuerſe ſufficient and valiant men yet liuing, and whoſe woundes were not mortall, they might doe their countrie and prince acceptable ſeruice hereafter. And (that where Sir *Riehard* had alleaged that the Spadiards ſhould neuer glorie to haue taken one ſhippe of her Maieſties, ſeeing they had ſo long and ſo notably defended them ſelues) they anſwered, that the ſhippe had ſixe foote water in hold, three ſhot vnder water which were ſo weakly ſtopped, as with the firſt working of the ſea, ſhe muſt needes ſinke, and was beſides ſo cruſht & bruſed, as ſhe could neuer be remoued out of the place.

And as the matter was thus in diſpute, and Sir *Riehard* refuſing to hearken to any of thoſe reaſons; the maiſter of the *Reuenge* (while the Captaine wan vnto him the greater party) was conuoyde aborde the Generall *Don Alfonſo Baſſan*. Who finding none ouer haſtie to enter the *Reuenge* againe, doubting leaſt S. *Richard* would haue blowne them vp and himſelfe, and perceiuing by the report of the maiſter of the *Reuenge* his daungerous diſpoſition: yeelded that all their liues ſhould bee ſaued, the companie ſent for England, and the better ſorte to pay ſuch reaſonable ranſome as their eſtate would beare, and in the meane ſeaſon to be free from Gally or impriſonment. To this

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he ſo much the rather condeſcended as well as I haue ſaide, for feare of further loſſe and miſchiefe to them ſelues, as alſo for the deſire hee had to recouer Sir *Richard Grinuile*; whom for his notable valure he ſeemed greatly to honour and admire.

When this anſwere was returned, and that ſafetie of life was promiſed, the common ſort being now at the end of their perill, the moſt drew backe from Sir *Richard* and the maiſter Gunner, being no hard matter to diſwade men from death to life. The maiſter Gunner finding him ſelfe and Sir *Richard* thus preuented and maiſtered by the greater number, would haue ſlaine himſelfe with a ſword, had he not beene by force withheld and locked into his Cabben. Then the Generall ſent manie boates abord the *Reuenge*, and diuerſe of our men fearing Sir *Richards* diſpoſition, ſtole away aboord the Generall and other ſhippes. Sir *Richard* thus ouermatched, was ſent vnto by *Alfonſo Baſſan* to remoue out of the *Reuenge*, the ſhippe being maruellous vnſauerie, filled with bloud & bodies of deade, & wounded men like a ſlaughter houſe. Sir *Richard* anſwered that he might do with his bodie what he liſt, for he eſteemed it not, and as he was carried out of the ſhippe he ſwounded, and reuiuing againe deſired the companie to pray for him. The Generall vſed Sir *Richard* with all humanitie, and left nothing vnattempted that

tended to his recouerie, highly commending his valour and worthines, and greatly bewailed the daunger wherein he was, beeing vnto them a rare ſpectacle, and a reſolution ſildome approued, to ſee one ſhip turne toward ſo many enemies, to endure the charge & boording of ſo many huge Armados, and to reſiſt and repell the aſſaults and entries of ſo many ſouldiers. All which & more, is confirmed by a Spaniſh Captaine of the ſame Armada, and a preſent actor in the fight, who being ſeuered from the reſt in a ſtorm, was by the *Lyon* of London a ſmall ſhip taken, & is now priſoner in Lõdon.

The generall commander of the Armada, was *Don Alphonſo Baſſan*, brother to the Marqueſſe of *Santa Cruce*. The Admirall of the *Biſcaine* ſquadron, was *Britan Dona*. Of the ſquadron of *Siuill*, Marques of *Arumburch*. The Hulkes and Flybotes were commaunded by *Luis Cutino*. There were ſlaine and drowned in this fight, well neere two thouſand of the enemies, and two eſpeciall commanders *Don Luis de ſant Iohn*, and *Don George de Prunaria de Mallaga*, as the Spaniſh Captain confeſſeth, beſides diuers others of ſpeciall account, wherof as yet report is not made.

The Admirall of the Hulkes & the Aſcention of *Siuill*, were both ſuncke by the ſide of the *Reuenge*; one other recouered the rode of Saint *Michels*, and ſuncke alſo there; a fourth ranne her ſelfe with the ſhore to ſaue her men. Syr

Richard

Richard died as it is ſaid, the ſecond or third day aboard the Generall, and was by them greatly bewailed. What became of his bodie, whether it were buried in the ſea or on the lande wee know not: the comfort that remaineth to his friendes is, that he hath ended his life honourably in reſpect of the reputation wonne to his nation and country, and of the ſame to his poſteritie, and that being dead, he hath not outliued his owne honour.

For the reſt of her Maieſties ſhips that entred not ſo fat into the fight as the *Reuenge*, the reaſons and cauſes were theſe. There were of them but ſix in all, wherof two but ſmal ſhips; the *Reuenge* ingaged paſt recouerie: The Iland of *Flores* was on the one ſide, 53. ſaile of the Spaniſh, diuided into ſquadrons on the other, all as full filled with ſoldiers as they could containe. Almoſt the one halfe of our men ſicke and not able to ſerue: the ſhips growne foule, vnroomaged, and ſcarcely able to beare anie ſaile for want of balaſt, hauing beene ſixe moneths at the ſea before. If al the reſt had entred, all had been loſt. For the verie hugenes of the Spaniſh fleet, if no other violence had been offred, would haue cruſht them between them into ſhiuers. Of which the diſhonour and loſſe to the Queene had been far greater then the ſpoile or harme that the enemy could any way haue receiued. Notwithſtanding it is verie true, that the Lord *Thomas* would haue entred betweene the ſquadrons, but the reſt wold not

condeſcend; and the maiſter of his owne ſhip offred to leape into the ſea, rather then to conduct that her Maieſties ſhip and the reſt to be a praie to the enemy, where there was no hope nor poſſibilitie either of defence or victorie. Which alſo in my opinion had il ſorted or anſwered the diſcretion & truſt of a Generall, to commit himſelfe and his charge to an aſſured deſtruction, without hope or any likelihood of preuailing: therby to diminiſh the ſtrength of her Maieſties Nauy, & to enrich the pride & glorie of the enemie. The Foreſight of the Queenes commanded by M. *Th. Vauiſor*, performed a verie great fight, & ſtayd two houres as neere the *Reuenge* as the wether wold permit him, not forſaking the fight, till hee was like to be encompaſſed by the ſquadrõs, & with great difficultie cleared himſelfe. The reſt gaue diuers voleies of ſhot, & entred as far as the place permitted & their own neceſſities, to keep the weather gage of the enemy, vntill they were parted by night. A fewe daies after the fight was ended, & the Engliſh priſoners diſperſed into the Spaniſh & Indy ſhips, there aroſe ſo great a ſtorme from the Weſt and Northweſt, that all the fleet was diſperſed, as well the Indian fleet which were then come vnto them, as the reſt of the Armada that attended their arriuall, of which 14. ſaile togither with the *Reuenge*, & in her 200. Spaniards, were caſt away vpon the Iſle of S. *Michaels*. So it pleaſed them to honor the buriall of that renowned ſhip the

Reuenge,

Reuenge, not ſuffring her to periſh alone, for the great honour ſhe achieued in her life time. On the reſt of the Ilandes there were caſt away in this ſtorme, 15. or 16. more of the ſhips of war; and of a hundred and odde ſaile of the Indie fleet, expected this yeere in *Spaine*, what in this tempeſt, & what before in the bay of *Mexico*, & about the *Bermudas* there were 70. & odde conſumed & loſt, with thoſe taken by our ſhips of London, beſides one verie rich *Indian* ſhippe, which ſet her ſelfe on fire, beeing boorded by the Pilgrim, & fiue other takē by Maiſter *Wats* his ſhips of London, betweene the *Hauana* and *Cape* S. *Antonio*. The 4. of this month of Nouēber, we receiued letters from the *Tercera*, affirming ꝙ there are 3000. bodies of mē remaining in that Iland, ſaued out of the periſhed ſhips: and that by the Spaniards own cōfeſſiō, there are 10000. caſt away in this ſtorm, beſides thoſe that are periſhed betweene the Ilands and the maine. Thus it hath pleaſed God to fight for vs, & to defend the iuſtice of our cauſe, againſt the ambicious & bloudy pretenſes of the Spaniard, who ſeeking to deuour all nations, are themſelues deuoured. A manifeſt teſtimonie how iniuſt & diſpleaſing, their attempts are in the ſight of God, who hath pleaſed to witnes by the ſucceſſe of their affaires, his miſlike of their bloudy and iniurious deſignes, purpoſed & practiſed againſt all Chriſtian Princes, ouer whom they ſeeke vnlawfull and vngodly rule and Empery.

One day or two before this wrack hapned to the ſpaniſh fleet, when as ſome of our priſoners deſired to be ſet on ſhore vpō the Ilands, hoping to be frō thēce trāſported into Englād, which libertie was formerly by the Generall promiſed: One *Morice Fitz Iohn*, ſonne of old *Iohn* of *Deſmond* a notable traitor, couſen german to the late Earle of *Deſmond*, was ſent to the Engliſh from ſhip to ſhip, to perſuade them to ſerue the King of *Spaine*. The arguments he vſed to induce them, were theſe. The increaſe of pay which he promiſed to bee trebled: aduancement to the better ſort: and the exerciſe of the true Catholicke religion, and ſafetie of their ſoules to all. For the firſt, euen the beggerly & vnnaturall behauiour of thoſe Engliſh and Iriſh rebels, that ſerued the King in that preſent action, was ſufficient to anſwere that firſt argument of rich paie. For ſo poore and beggerly they were, as for want of apparel they ſtripped their poore country men priſoners out of their ragged garments, worne to nothing by ſix months ſeruice, and ſpared not to deſpoile them euen of their bloudie ſhirts, from their wounded bodies, & the very ſhooes from their feete; A notable teſtimonie of their rich entertainment and great wages. The ſecond reaſon was hope of aduancement if they ſerued well, and would continue faithfull to the King. But what man can be ſo blockiſhly ignorant euer to expect place or honour from

a forraine king, hauing no other argument or perſwaſion then his owne diſloyaltie; to bee vnnaturall to his owne countrie that bredde him; to his parents that begat him, and rebellious to his true prince, to whoſe obedience he is bound by othe, by nature, and by religion. No, they are onely aſſured to be imployed in all deſperate enterpriſes, to be held in ſcorne and diſdaine euer among thoſe whom they ſerue. And that euer traitor was either truſted or aduanced I could neuer yet reade, neither can I at this time remember any example. And no man could haue leſſe becommed the place of an Orator for ſuch a purpoſe, then this *Morice* of *Deſmond*. For the Earle his coſen being one of the greateſt ſubiects in that kingdō of *Ireland*, hauing almoſt whole contries in his poſſeſſion; ſo many goodly manners, Caſtles, and Lordſhips; the Count Palatine of *Kerry*, fiue hundred gentlemen of his owne name and familie to follow him, beſides others. All which he poſſeſſed in peace for three or foure hundred yeares: was in leſſe then three yeares after his adhering to the Spaniards and rebellion, beaten from all his holdes, not ſo many as ten gentlemen of his name left liuing, him ſelfe taken and beheaded by a ſouldiour of his owne nation, and his land giuen by a Parlament to her Maeſtie, and poſſeſſed by the Engliſh. His other coſen Sir *Iohn* of *Deſmond* takē by M. *Iohn Zouch*, & his body hanged ouer the

gates

gates of his natiue citie to bee deuoured by Rauens: the third brother Sir *Iames* hanged, drawne, and quartered in the ſame place. If he had withall vaunted of this ſucceſſe of his owne houſe, no doubt the argument woulde haue moued much, and wrought great effect; which becauſe he for that preſent forgot, I thought it good to remember in his behalfe. For matter of religion it would require a particuler volume, if I ſhould ſet downe how irreligiouſly they couer their greedy and ambicious pretences, with that vayle of pietie. But ſure I am, that there is no kingdom or common wealth in all Europe, but if they bee reformed, they then inuade it for religion ſake: if it be, as they terme Catholike, they pretende title; as if the Kinges of *Caſtile* were the naturall heires of all the worlde: and ſo betweene both, no kingdom is vnſought. where they dare not with their owne forces to inuade, they baſely entertaine the traitors and vacabondes of all nations; ſeeking by thoſe & by their runnagate *Ieſuits* to win partes, and haue by that meane ruined many Noble houſes and others in this land, and haue extinguiſhed both their liues and families. What good, honour, or fortune euer man yet by them achiued, is yet vnheard of, or vnwritten. And if our Engliſh Papiſtes do but looke into *Portugall*, againſt whom they haue no pretence of religion, how the Nobilitie are put

to

death, impriſoned, their rich men made a pray, and all ſortes of people captiued; they ſhall find that the obedience euen of the Turke is eaſie and a libertie, in reſpect of the ſlauerie & tyrannie of *Spaine*. What they haue done in *Sicill*, in *Naples*, *Millayne*, and in the low countries; who hath there beene ſpared for religion at all? And it commeth to my remembrance of a certaine Burger of *Antwerpe*, whoſe houſe being entred by a companie of Spaniſh ſouldiers, when they firſt ſacked the Citie, hee beſought them to ſpare him and his goodes, being a good Catholike, and one of their own partie and faction. The Spaniardes anſwered, that they knew him to be of a good conſcience for him ſelfe, but his money, plate, iewels, and goodes, were all hereticall, and therfore good prize. So they abuſed and tormented the fooliſh Flemming, who hoped that an *Agnus Dei* had beene a ſufficient Target againſt all force of that holie and charitable nation. Neither haue they at any time as they proteſt inuaded the kingdomes of the *Indies* and *Peru*, and els where, but onely led thereunto, rather to reduce the people to Chriſtianitie, then for either golde or emperie. When as in one onely Iland called *Hiſpaniola*, they haue waſted thirtie hundred thouſand of the naturall people, beſides manie millions els in other places of the *Indies*: a poore and harmeleſſe people created of God, and might haue beene

won to his knowledge,as many of them were, and almoſt as manie as euer were perſwaded thereunto. The Storie whereof is at large written by a Biſhop of their owne nation cal- *Bartholome de las Caſa*, and tranſlated into Engliſh and manie other languages,intituled *The Spaniſh cruelties*. Who would therefore repoſe truſt in ſuch a nation of rauinous ſtraungers,and eſpecially in thoſe Spaniardes which more greedily thirſt after Engliſh bloud, then after the liues of anie other people of Europe; for the manie ouerthrowes and diſhonours they haue receiued at our handes,whoſe weakneſſe we haue diſcouered to the world, and whoſe forces at hõme,abroad,in *Europe*, in *India*, by ſea and land; we haue euen with handfulles of men and ſhippes, ouerthrowne and diſhonoured. Let not therefore anie Engliſh man of what religion ſoeuer, haue other opinion of the Spaniards, but that thoſe whom hee ſeeketh to winne of our nation, hee eſteemeth baſe and traiterous,vnworthie perſons, or vnconſtant fooles: and that he vſeth his pretence of religion, for no other purpoſe, but to bewitch vs from the obedience of our naturall prince; thereby hoping in time to bring vs to ſlauerie and ſubiection,and then none ſhall be vnto them ſo odious, and diſdained as the traitours themſelues, who haue ſolde their countrie to a ſtraunger, and forſaken their faith and obedience contrarie to nature or religion,

ligion; and contrarie to that humane and generall honour, not onely of Chriſtians, but of heathen and irreligious nations, who haue alwaies ſuſtained what labour ſoeuer, and embraced euen death it ſelfe, for their countrie, prince or common-wealth. To conclude, it hath euer to this day pleaſed God, to proſper and defend her Maieſtie, to breake the purpoſes of malicious enimies, of foreſworne traitours, and of iniuſt practiſes and inuaſions. She hath euer beene honoured of the worthieſt Kinges, ſerued by faithfull ſubiects, and ſhall by the fauour of God, reſiſt, repell, and confound all whatſoeuer attempts againſt her ſacred Perſon or kingdome. In the meane time, let the Spaniard and traitour vaunt of their ſucceſſe; and we her true and obedient vaſſalles guided by the ſhining light of her vertues, ſhall alwaies loue her, ſerue her, and obey her to the end of our liues.

FINIS.

A perticuler note of the Indian fleet, expected to haue come into Spaine this preſent yere of 1591. with the number of ſhips that are periſhed of the ſame: according to the examination of certaine Spanyards, lately taken and brought into England by the ſhippes of London.

THe fleet of *Noua Hiſpania*, at their firſt gathering togither and ſetting foorth, were 52. ſailes. The Admiral was of 600. tuns, and the Vice Admirall of the ſame burthen. Foure or fiue of the ſhips were of 900. and 1000. tunnes a peece, ſome 500. and 400. and the leaſt of 200. tunnes. Of this fleet 19. were caſt away, and in them 2600. men by eſtimatiõ, which was done along the coaſt of *Noua Hiſpania*, ſo that of the ſame fleet, there came to the *Hauana*, but three and thirtie ſailes.

The fleete of *Terra Firma*, were at their firſt departure from *Spain*, 50. ſailes, which were bound for *Nombre de Dios*, where they did diſcharge their lading, & thence returned to *Cartagena*, for their healths ſake, vntill the time the treaſure was readie they ſhould take in, at the ſaid *Nombre de Dios*. But before this fleet departed, ſome were gone by one or two at a time, ſo that only 23. ſailes of this fleete arriued in the *Hauana*.

At the Hauana there met

33. sailes of *Noua Hispania.*
23. sailes of *Terra Firma.*
12. sailes of *San Domingo.*
9. sailes of *Hunduras.*

In the whole 77. ships, which ioyned and set sailes togither, at the *Hauana*, the 17. of Iuly, according to our account, & kept togither vntill they came into the height of 35. degrees, which was about the tenth of Auguſt, where they found the winde at Southweſt, chaunged ſodenly to the North, ſo that the ſea comming out of the Southweſt, and the winde very violent at North, they were put all into great extremity, and then firſt loſt the Generall of their fleet, with 500. men in her; and within three or foure daies after an other ſtorme riſing, there were fiue or ſix other of the biggeſt ſhips caſt away with all their men, togither with their vice Admirall.

And in the height of 48. degrees about the end of Auguſt, grew an other great ſtorme, in which all the fleet ſauing 48. ſailes were caſt away: which 48. ſailes kept togither, vntill they came in ſight of the Ilands of *Coruo* & *Flores*, about the 5. or 6. of September, at which time a great ſtorme ſeperated them; of which number 15. or 16. were after ſeene by theſe Spanyards to ride at anchor vnder the *Terçera*; and twelue or foureteene more to beare with the

Iland of S. *Michaels*; what became of them after that theſe Spaniards were taken, cannot yet be certified; their opinion is, that verie few of the fleet are eſcaped, but are either drowned or taken. And it is otherwaies of late certified, that of this whole fleet that ſhould haue come into *Spaine* this yeare, being 123. ſaile, there are as yet arriued but 25. This note was taken out of the examination of certaine Spaniards, that were brought into England by ſix of the ſhips of London, which tooke ſeuen of the aboue named Indian fleet, neere the Ilands of *Açores*.

FINIS.

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